

NIOSH is Recent Addition to HSMHA

The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) is one of the newer organizational components of the Health Services and Mental Health Administration. Created as a result of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-596) which became effective April 28, 1971, NIOSH was founded largely upon the Bureau of Occupational Safety and Health that had been a part of the former Environmental Control Administration.

The Institute headquarters is located in Rockville, Md., and its main laboratories are in Cincinnati, Ohio. Additional field installations are located in Salt Lake City, Utah, and Morgantown, W.Va. To assist in the field activities, NIOSH is assigning full-time staff members to each of the 10 regional offices of the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare.

Among its varied responsibilities, NIOSH will carry out the extensive research and training requirements under two major Federal laws: the Federal Coal Mine Health and Safety Act of 1969 and the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970. Research, conducted under grants and contracts as well as by Institute personnel, focuses upon a large variety of occupational safety and health hazards—from studies of the physiological and psychological effects on workers of exposure to noise to the interaction of drugs, toxic air pollutants, and heat stress.

The Institute's division of training offers an increasing variety of short courses for interested occupational safety and health representatives from government and industry. NIOSH also has embarked on a training grant program involving 2-year, 4-year, and graduate school levels.

Most of the Institute's work in the health activities of the Federal Coal Mine Health and Safety Act of 1969 is carried out at the NIOSH Morgantown, W.Va., facility known as the Appalachian Laboratory for Occupational Respiratory Diseases (ALFORD). More than 50,000 underground coal miners have received chest X-rays provided by the medical examination program since it was undertaken in October 1970. NIOSH also qualifies radiologists and physicians for participation in the program, designed to identify miners who show evidence of coal workers' pneumoconiosis or "black lung disease."

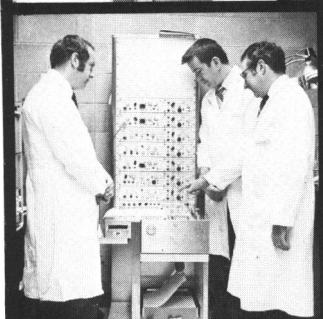
Cover—Family planning physician at door of temporary clinic in Turkey. Family planning programs of two developing countries—Iran and Turkey—are compared in a paper that begins on page 1011.



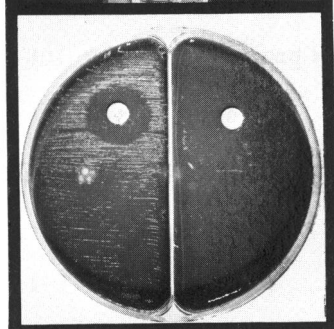
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